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# NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

Queen Elizabeth of Belgium is said to hold the degree of Doctor of Medicine. It will be remembered that her father, a Bavarian prince, was a skilled oculist and used his skill for the benefit of the poor.

There are forty-three dentists employed with the British Expeditionary Force in France beside a number attached to the Canadian contingent.

A private named Woods, who was rendered dumb by the shock caused by the parapet of a trench falling on him, recovered his speech in hospital when his mother appeared at his bedside. He at once exclaimed "Mother!" and has continued to talk freely.

It is stated that the Allied prisoners are well treated at Ingoldstadt, a prison camp near Munich. They are visited by the authorities of the American Hospital there.

Some of the Belgian wounded have formed an organization called Les Petites Abeilles, The Little Bees, as an auxiliary to the committee of relief. It is looking after one hundred or more of the baby canteens. They prepare food for babies in arms, up to children three years old; it is as carefully done as by nurses in settlement work, or welfare nursing. The results, under the terrible conditions of privation existing, are remarkable.

A party of British nurses has arrived in England after a journey across the snow-covered mountains of Albania. They encountered a blizzard while crossing a mountain 8000 feet high. They retreated from Serbia with the Serbian army and endured great hardships from cold and hunger.

A hospital for the wounded at Wimereux, France, near Boulogne, occupied by sixty patients was destroyed by fire. All the wounded were removed from the burning building without accident.

Ambulance dogs employed in the German army are trained not to bark when they find wounded, but to return and fetch their masters. There are said to be 1700 ambulance dogs and that they have saved 4000 lives. There is a special dog hospital at Jena, where exhausted or ailing dogs may recruit.

The Berlin Electric Tramways Company has installed twenty women

in the place of as many motor men. They passed satisfactory tests and if they acquit themselves well in actual service the number is to be largely increased. There have been practically none but women conductors on the tramways in German cities for many months.

The French Government has ceded to the British Government in perpetuity, land for British graves in France.

This is the women's year, all occupations are open to them and they may be found filling many unwonted positions. In England educated women are acting as accountants, draughtsmen, analytical chemists, supervisors in munition works, and agriculturists. A leading insurance company has appointed a woman inspector.

Eight Russian soldier prisoners who escaped from various German camps arrived in England, having successfully evaded recapture. They met, not knowing that each of the others had escaped, and reached England on the same boat.

Nearly sixty ladies who are skilled in the Braille system of reading and writing for the blind come every day to teach it to 130 blind soldiers who have lost their sight on the battlefield. They are housed at St. Dunstan's, the house in London lent by Otto Kahn, the American financier. They learn typewriting and other occupations and some who have left the house are already self-supporting, with the aid of their pensions.

There is a military hospital in London managed entirely by women, from the porter at the gate to the principal medical officer. The hospital staff numbers about eighty.

The *Lancet* describes several cases of shell shock in soldiers treated by hypnotism. These included men suffering from complete loss of memory, loss of voice, stupor and spasmodic movements. Twenty-six per cent of the cases were completely cured and the same proportion showed distinct improvement. Thirty-five per cent failed to hypnotise and the remaining 13 per cent were not improved after hypnosis.

So scarce have supplies of ordinary string and twine become in England that it is now manufactured from paper. It is exactly similar in appearance to the genuine article and it is difficult to detect the difference. It is suitable for tying fair-sized parcels.

Italian soldiers, fighting in the Alps against the Austrians, are clad in armor resembling that worn in the Middle Ages. Even the neck is protected with a steel net-work. It is especially used by snipers.